Deep Sea Bed Exploration

2246. SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the countries who have been allotted Pioneer status in deep sea-bed exploration;

(b) whether India has developed technology for mining Poly-metallic nodules;

(c) if so, the details of the programme; and

(d) the economic potential and benefit foreseen though development of technology for mining as well as for processing Polymetallic nodules?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) India, Sovit Union, France, Japan and China are the countries who were allotted pioneer status in deep seabed exploration.

(b) and (c). India has a programme of developing a deep seabed test mining system in step with technological developments in other advanced countries and in view of its ready convertibility to a commercial system whenver the international market situation so demands. The deep seabed test mining project is being implemented by the Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute, Durgapur, as the nodal agency alongwith a large group of industries and R & D centers in the country. The system would be progressively developed through various stages from a land based shallow water facility to a low value but fully operational deep seabed mining system at depths of 5 km.

(d) The direct economic potential and benefit foreseen through the development of technology for mining as well as processing of polymetallic nodules relates to the saving of foreign exchange which is being spent on the import of all the country's requirement of Cobalt and Nickel and about half the requirement of Copper. Production of these metals from polymetallic nodules will, therefore, save considerable amount of foreign exchange. The development of this technology also has a high innovative potential an three will be spin off benefits in other fields.

[*Translation*]

Development Scheme of Uttar Pradesh

2247. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Uttar Pradesh have sent some development schemes to the Planning Commission for approval;

(b) if so, the names and location of these schemes; and

(c) the action taken by the Planning Commission on each scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) The State Government is yet to furnish their Draft Eighth Five Year Plan (1992-97) and AnnualPlan (1992-93) proposals in this regard to the Planning Commission.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Drinking Water Project in Jaunpur District of U.P. with World Bank Assistance

2248. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any project for supply of water in Jaunpur District of Uttar Pradesh with the help of the World bank or any other International Institution is being implemented;

(b) if so, the details in regard thereto;

(c) the expenditure involved and the year in which it is likely to be completed;

(d) whether implementation of this project is being delayed; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e). Do not arise.

Tube-Wells in Bihar with World Bank Assistance

2249. SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of tube-wells installed in Bihar district-wise, with the assistance of the World Bank during the last two years;

(b) the number of tube-wells out of them working and the number of tube-wells lying inactive;

(c) the time by which these inactive tube-wells are likely to be made active; and

(d) the number of tube-wells likely to be installed in these districts with the assistance of the World Bank during 1991-92 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL): (a) There is no on-going World bank assisted scheme for drinking water supply in Bihar.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

[*English*]

Employment Through Private Sector

2250. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether, in view of the recent policy decision by the Government in regard to liberiisation in Industrial Sector by allowing expansion of industries, the Government proposoe to appeal to the private sector to provide sufficient employment to solve the unemployment problem facing the country; and

(b) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) and (b). The major objective of the new Industrial policy would Inter-alia be to maintain a sustained growth in gainful employment. All sectors in Industry whether small, medium or large, belonging to the pubiic, private or cooperative sector will be encouraged to grow and improve on their performance.

High Capacity metro Transport System

2251. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have not given the financial clearance to the proposal for a high capacity metro transport system for the capital;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether the Government had given permission to go ahead with the project; and